

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Knöpfle, et al.  
Serial No.: Unknown  
Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Examiner: Not assigned  
For: A SELF-RETAINING IMPLANT AND A DEVICE FOR  
SECURING THE IMPLANT

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

BOX PATENT APPLICATION  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits please amend the specification and claims as follows  
and consider the accompanying remarks.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please add the following as Paragraph 1 on Page 1 of the specification:

This application claims priority to German Application  
No. DE 19907354A1 filed April 24, 2001.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend Claims 1 through 27 as follows:

1. (Amended) A self-retaining implant for attaching a bone cover or a bone  
fragment, the implant comprising:  
a support element having an upper side and a lower side, the lower side for  
facing a surface of the bone cover or the bone fragment; and